

## Message Text

SECRET

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42

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W  
----- 016677

O R 051320Z JUL 76  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3375  
INFO AMEMBASSY MUSCAT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA

S E C R E T LONDON 10434

EXDIS

E.O.11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: MARR, UK, MU  
SUBJECT: USE OF MASIRAH IN OMAN

REF: STATE 166422

1. IN ORDER TO GET BALL ROLLING AS SOON AS FEASIBLE, EMB-OFF CONVEYED POINTS IN INSTRUCTION IN REFTEL TO IVOR LUCAS, HEAD OF FCO MIDDLE EAST DEPT, ON JULY 5. TWO UK MOD OFFICIALS WERE ALSO PRESENT. EMBOFF GAVE THEM TEXT OF OUR REPLY TO THE "FOUR QUESTIONS" AS STATED IN PARA 5 OF REFTEL.

2. WITH REGARD TO US USE OF MASIRAH AS PROPOSED, LUCAS SAW NO OVER-RIDING POLICY OBJECTION BUT NOTED THAT UK POLITICAL AGREEMENT WOULD HAVE TO BE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL GIVEN BY SULTAN QABOOS DIRECTLY TO BRITISH. FCO HOPES TO OBTAIN HIS REACTIONS IN LONDON LATER THIS WEEK, AND WILL INFORM US PROMPTLY. MEANWHILE, LUCAS AND MOD OFFICIALS RECOMMENDED THAT US DEPT OF DEFENSE IN LONDON SHOULD GO AHEAD AND CONTACT UK MOD DIRECTLY IN ORDER TO MAKE TECHNICAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR FIRST FLIGHT SUBJECT TO FINAL POLITICAL CLEARANCE.

3. WITH REGARD TO PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT, MOD HAD BEEN THIN-SECRET

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ING IN TERMS OF AN ANNOUNCEMENT IN PARLIAMENT VERY SOON

AFTER DEPARTURE OF QABOOS, WHICH NOW PLANNED FOR JULY 17  
MOD OFFICIALS NOTED OUR REQUEST TO DEFER ANNOUNCEMENT UN-  
TIL AFTER OUR FIRST FLIGHT, BUT SUGGESTED THAT IN THAT CASE  
US ATTEMPT TO SCHEDULE FLIGHT BEFORE JULY 19.  
BRITISH HAVE ALREADY CLEARED TEXT OF ANNOUNCEMENT WITH  
QABOOS.

4. FURTHER DETAILS OF CONVERSATION TOMORROW WHEN EMBAS-  
SY REOPENS.

SPIERS

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY ASSISTANCE, MILITARY EQUIPMENT, MILITARY BASES, MASIRAH  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 JUL 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976LONDON10434  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** X1  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760259-0466  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION SS  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 166422  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** coburnhl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 12 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Referrals:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** USE OF MASIRAH IN OMAN  
**TAGS:** MARR, UK, MU, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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